



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **PUBLIC SHARES PARKING FEEDBACK WITH CITY OFFICIALS**

*City holds first public forum about parking; answers public's questions*

**INDIANAPOLIS** – The City of Indianapolis held its first public meeting at the Center for Inquiry to solicit resident feedback regarding Mayor Ballard's plan to consolidate the management of government-owned parking garages, lots and meters.

“Ultimately, the goal of the parking RFQ process is to upgrade our city's aging and outdated parking meters with increased parking meter technology,” said Michael Huber, Director of Enterprise Development. “By better utilizing the City's parking garages, lots and meters, residents and visitors to the downtown area will enjoy the benefits of new parking technologies, including meters that can accept credit and debit cards as a form of payment.”

City officials briefed those in attendance on the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) issued on Feb. 10, the responses received on Mar. 15, the short list announced on Apr. 8 and the upcoming steps in the process.

In addition to the public meeting held last night, the City will host several public meetings throughout the bidding process to discuss the RFQ responses and gather opinions from the public.

The City currently oversees more than 15,000 parking spaces and hopes this effort will incorporate other governmental entities' parking lots throughout the area. Included in this request are three Capital Improvement Board (CIB) surface lots and one parking garage, one City of Indianapolis parking garage and all metered street spaces. In addition, the proposal asks for responses for the State of Indiana downtown parking garages, four garages affiliated with Simon Property Group and the parking to be created at the new Wishard Memorial Hospital. A request for information on parking at the Indianapolis International Airport was also attached to the proposal.

By streamlining the contracts of multiple government-owned garages and lots into one contract, the city will provide savings to taxpayers, while creating a more efficient parking system. One exciting aspect to the RFQ process is the opportunity to create additional dollars to invest in the improvement of Downtown and Broad Ripple roads, sidewalks, bridges and other infrastructure through the parking meter transaction.

For more information about the public parking system initiative and the schedule for public meetings, please visit [www.indy.gov/parking](http://www.indy.gov/parking) or call 317-327-4MAC.

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